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*Admitted only in Maryland
*Admitted only in Virginia
*Practice Limited to
Federal Agencies

June 2, 2006

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1646

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/644,084; Filed: August 20, 2003
For: **ADIP Protein and Use Thereof**
Inventors: Takai *et al.*
Our Ref: 2144.0100000/RWE/S-G

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Reply to Restriction Requirement; and
2. A return postcard.

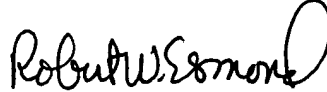
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
June 2, 2006
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Esmond". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Robert W. Esmond
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 32,893

RWE/S-G/tts
Enclosures

539601v1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Takai *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/644,084

Filed: August 20, 2003

For: **ADIP Protein and Use Thereof**

Confirmation No.: 4948

Art Unit: 1646

Examiner: Li, Ruixiang

Atty. Docket: 2144.0100000/RWE/S-G

Reply to Restriction Requirement

Commissioner for Patents

PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated May 4, 2006, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the invention of Group I, represented by claims 1, 3-6, and 14-18. Applicants further elect for initial search and examination on the merits: SEQ ID NOS: 1 and 2. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed.

• This election is made **without traverse**.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Robert W. Esmond

Attorney for Applicants

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Date: June 2, 2006

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